

~~TOP SECRET~~
Security Information
Deputies' Meeting

Friday, 20 February 1955

PRESENT: Messrs. Dulles, Wisner, Becker, Col. White, Messrs. [REDACTED]

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Mr. Dulles:

a. Mentioned the letter recommending the promotion of [REDACTED] to two star rank and said that he would discuss this with General Smith.

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b. Asked Col. White about our present recruitment policy in the light of budget cutbacks. Col. White reported that new employment is 'restricted' as required by the Administration, but not entirely stopped. He noted also that this has been so for some months, resulting in a slow net gain in Agency personnel. [REDACTED] Mr. Wisner asked whether it would be possible in the light of drastic cutbacks elsewhere to recruit higher quality clerical personnel. Col. White noted that the shortage of good clerical personnel is acute throughout the Government and that he is doing all possible in this.

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d. Reported in some detail on yesterday's PSB luncheon.

e. Noted a cable he had received from [REDACTED] respecting a proposed [REDACTED] It was the consensus that we could move slowly on this matter as it is primarily of State concern. Mr. Wisner undertook to discuss the proposal with [REDACTED] and Mr. Helms said he would discuss it with [REDACTED]

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f. Drew attention to Mr. Stassen's memorandum on the curtailment of NSA's [REDACTED] will be given the responsibility for working out the CIA end of this.

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Mr. Dulles (Cont'd.)

g. Noted the successful outcome of the [] conversations with the Yugoslavs. 25X1

h. Reported that Gen. Cutler's panel on the NSC discussed the matter of CIA membership on the NSC. Mr. Dulles indicated that he favored continuance of our advisory relationship as opposed to a voting membership. Mr. Becker concurred and urged that our relationship to the Senior Staff be on the same basis. In this connection Mr. Becker observed that the Senior Staff position was increasingly becoming a full-time job to which an officer with line responsibilities could not do justice, and suggested that perhaps the assignment could be rotated among people of the caliber of [] 25X1
The recruitment of [] Richard Bissell for this position was suggested. Mr. Dulles expressed the view that an ivory tower complex on the part of a full-time Senior Staff member could be counteracted by having him regularly present at the Deputies' meetings. 25X1

Mr. Wisner:

a. Mentioned a letter from [] which had been passed on to him by the DCI. The allegations concerning the Lebanon Star are being checked. Mr. Wisner said that he would thereafter answer [] letter, sending copies to those to whom [] had sent copies of his letter to us. It was agreed that the proper way to handle [] was to inform him that "we work for the NSC. If you want something done, go see them." 25X1
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b. Reported that he had lunch with [] Mr. Wisner was unable to learn anything significant about [] plans in his new position other than that he is planning to take on [] as his assistant. 25X1
[] had mentioned [] and expressed the view that it was perhaps his responsibility to see that [] was not lost to the Army PW effort. 25X1
25X1

c. Reported on the visit of Messrs. [] and noted that they were drawing up a paper on the Russian Nationalities question which they will bring around when completed. Mr. Wisner noted also that he had talked with [] on this matter and that while [] did not favor the separatist approach he was interested in the organization of nationalist cadres as suggested in NSC 143. Mr. Dulles observed that this matter will come up for discussion at the NSC Senior Staff meeting on 23 February but felt that we should stay out of this particular problem for a while, letting State and Defense fight the matter out. Mr. Wisner noted two possible solutions if the program in NSC 143 is to be adopted: To let the US Army pay for it or to let NATO support the program. Mr. Dulles said that the matter would probably come up for further discussion at the PSB. 25X1
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d. Noted that Mr. Stoner in State had recommended to Cong. Taber that all foreign informational facilities, public and private, be consolidated, and warned

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Mr. Wisner (Cont'd.)

that this matter might be heard from again. He suggested that he ought to give Stoner an intimate talking to on this subject, even though no mention of RFE has yet been made in this connection.

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Mr. Becker briefly discussed [] report on the [] with particular reference to [] He undertook to handle further developments in this matter.

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Mr. Helms:

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a. Reported [] heart ailment and said he was querying [] before ordering [] home. Mr. Dulles noted that everything possible should be done to protect []

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b. Raised the matter of communications for the [] recommended that our communications facilities not be made available. Mr. Dulles agreed.

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e. Reported that he had heard that [] is getting a little weary of his present assignment. Mr. Dulles said he would like [] come up and have a chat with him.

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